



Application No. 08/899,410

Docket No.: PA-1239

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Galloway, et al. )  
 SERIAL NO.: 08/481,685 ) Group Art Unit: 1315  
 FILED: June 7, 1995 )  
 FOR: MULTILAYER THERMOPLASTIC ) Examiner: Kyriakou  
 FILMS AND PACKAGES MADE )  
 THEREFROM )

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited  
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(Registration No. 8,364)  
 Date May 23, 1997

DECLARATION OF PRIOR INVENTION TO  
OVERCOME CITED PATENTS UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.131

1. This declaration is to establish completion of the  
 invention in this application, as claimed in claims 1-21, in the  
 United States at a date prior to April 6, 1993, which is the  
 effective date under 35 USC §102(e) of prior art U.S. Patent No.  
 5,374,459, to Mumpower, and also prior to July 12, 1993, which is  
 the effective date under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) of the prior art U.S.  
 Patent No. 5,347,613, to Georgelos.

2. The persons making this declaration are joint  
 inventors of the subject matter of this application.

3. Attached hereto as Exhibit A is an internal  
 Experiment and Development Order of American National Can  
 Company, which establishes that the invention as claimed in  
 claims 1-21 was conceived at a date prior to April 6, 1993, which  
 is earlier than the effective date of the references.

4. As evidenced by Exhibit A, the films conceived were  
 three-layer, irradiated films, with an outer layer of a blend of

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EVA and LLDPE, a core barrier layer, and a inner layer of a blend of EVA and an ethylene alpha-olefin copolymer ("EAO") formed from a polymerization reaction in the presence of a single site catalyst, wherein the ethylene alpha-olefin copolymer had a molecular weight distribution of less than 2.5 and a melt flow rate ratio of greater than 7. The following are the specific film structures as detailed in Exhibit A:

- V2: EVA-LLDPE/barrier/100% EAO
- V3: EVA-LLDPE/barrier/90% EAO - 10% EVA
- V4: EVA-LLDPE/barrier/80% EAO - 20% EVA
- V5: EVA-LLDPE/barrier/50% EAO - 50% EVA
- V6: EVA-LLDPE/barrier/10% EAO - 90% EVA

5. Attached hereto at Exhibit B is an internal Laboratory Request of American National Can Company. The Laboratory Request establishes that the invention as claimed in claims 1-21 was reduced to practice at a date prior to April 6, 1993, which is earlier than the effective date of the references.

6. As set forth on the cover page of the laboratory request, heat shrinkable, three layer films were made, having the following structures, wherein "EAO" again refers to an ethylene alpha-olefin copolymer formed from a polymerization reaction in the presence of a single site catalyst, wherein the ethylene alpha-olefin copolymer has a molecular weight distribution of less than 2.5 and a melt flow rate ratio of greater than 7:

- V2: 100% EAO/barrier/100% EAO
- V3: 90% EAO-10% EVA/barrier/90% EVA-10% EAO
- V4: 80% EAO-20% EVA/barrier/80% EAO-20% EVA
- V5: 10% EAO-90% EVA/barrier/10% EAO-90% EVA

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V6: 20% EAO-80% EVA/barrier/20% EAO -80% EVA

The films were made and tested for various physical properties. The results of the tests are set forth in the Laboratory Request.

7. As a person signing below, I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full Name of Joint Inventor Deane E. Galloway

Inventor's Signature Deane E. Galloway

Date 5/2/97 Country of Citizenship USA

Residence 2517 North Hillwood Court

Appleton, Wisconsin 54911

Full Name of Joint Inventor Johnny O. Zheng

Inventor's Signature Johnny O. Zheng

Date 4-24-97 Country of Citizenship China

Residence 218 Crescent Oak

Peachtree City, Georgia 30269

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